February 13th, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony Legislative Office Building, Room 2702 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in support of keeping the STRIVE program in the Department of Labor Budget. The STRIVE program has been a staple in the community for over twelve years, and statewide has served thousands of individuals. I personally graduated the program in 2012 , and can tell you firsthand that I would not be as successful as I am today without the assistance of STRIVE.

With an extremely lean budget, and a proven track record of success, it would be foolish to cut a program that yields such high results. I understand that many tough decisions need to be made, and I do not envy your position. With a low cost, high impact program such as STRIVE, I believe it would be extremely unwise to cut their funding. I strongly encourage you to fight to keep STRIVE in the budget:

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me at the information below with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

James la) (hours long)

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